

# HOUSE BILL 1261

J1

11r2956

---

By: **Delegate McConkey**

Introduced and read first time: February 22, 2011

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Health – Food Product Labeling – Genetically Engineered Ingredients**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a food product that contains or consists of ingredients  
4 of which more than a certain percentage are genetically engineered ingredients  
5 from being sold in the State under certain circumstances; requiring the labeling  
6 for a certain food product to include a certain statement; authorizing the  
7 Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, in addition to certain other penalties,  
8 to seize or condemn any food product that is sold in violation of this Act;  
9 defining a certain term; and generally relating to the labeling of food products  
10 containing genetically engineered ingredients.

11 BY adding to

12 Article – Health – General

13 Section 21–330.1

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
17 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Health – General**

19 **21–330.1.**

20 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “GENETICALLY ENGINEERED INGREDIENT”  
21 MEANS AN INGREDIENT THAT CONTAINS FOREIGN GENES THAT HAVE BEEN  
22 ARTIFICIALLY INSERTED INTO THE GENETIC CODE OF THE INGREDIENT.

23 (B) UNLESS THE PACKAGING OF A FOOD PRODUCT IS CLEARLY AND  
24 CONSPICUOUSLY LABELED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 SECTION, NO FOOD PRODUCT THAT CONTAINS OR CONSISTS OF INGREDIENTS  
2 OF WHICH MORE THAN 1% ARE GENETICALLY ENGINEERED INGREDIENTS MAY  
3 BE SOLD IN THE STATE.

4 (C) LABELING FOR A FOOD PRODUCT THAT CONTAINS OR CONSISTS OF  
5 INGREDIENTS OF WHICH MORE THAN 1% ARE GENETICALLY ENGINEERED  
6 INGREDIENTS SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

7 “THIS PRODUCT CONTAINS GENETICALLY ENGINEERED INGREDIENTS.”.

8 (D) IN ADDITION TO THE PENALTIES PROVIDED IN § 21-1214 OF THIS  
9 TITLE, THE SECRETARY MAY SEIZE OR CONDEMN ANY FOOD PRODUCT SOLD IN  
10 VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
12 October 1, 2011.